

What is claimed is:

5 [Claim 1] A method of farming members of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) in a centralized location without exhibiting territoriality tendencies, said method comprising the steps of:

disposing a plurality of frames (24) about a work space (26),
with each frame (24) presenting an open frame space (28)
and in close proximity with one another;
covering the frames (24) and the work space (26) for
10 protection from exterior environmental conditions;
disposing a member of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) in each
of at least two different frames (24) for building webs (20)
within the open frame space (28);
attracting a food supply into the open frame space (28) from
15 the exterior environment; and
harvesting silk from the members of the Phylum Arthropoda
(12).

[Claim 2] A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the
step of disposing the member of the Phylum Arthropoda is
20 further defined as disposing a member of the Order Araneae
in the frames (24).

[Claim 3] A method as set forth in claim 2 wherein the
step of disposing the member of the Order Araneae is
further defined disposing a member of the Genus Nephila in
25 the frames (24).

[Claim 4] A method as set forth in claim 3 wherein the
step of disposing the member of the Genus Nephila is

further defined as disposing a *Nephila Clavipes* spider in the frames (24).

5 [Claim 5] A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of attracting a food supply into the open frame space (28) further comprises the step of disposing a light source (36) within the work space (26).

[Claim 6] A method as set forth in claim 5 further comprising the step of activating the light source (36) for drawing the food source through the open frame space (28).

10 [Claim 7] A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of harvesting silk further comprises the step of removing the member of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) from the open frame space (28) and withdrawing silk from the member of Phylum Arthropoda (12).

15 [Claim 8] A method as set forth in claim 7 further comprising the step of disposing a netting (38) over the open frame space (28) for limiting defection of the member of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) from the work space (26).

20 [Claim 9] A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of disposing the frames (24) about the work space (26) is further defined as disposing the frames (24) about the work space (26) having a ratio of a predetermined area of the open frame space (28) to a predetermined area of a foot print (30) of the work space (26) of at least 1:5 to prevent
25 territoriality of the members of Phylum Arthropoda (12).

[Claim 10] A housing assembly for farming members of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) in a centralized location to collect silk therefrom, said assembly comprising:

- 5 a wall (22) establishing an outer periphery defining a work space (26) having a foot print (30) of a predetermined area and defining a plurality of frames (24) therein;
each of said frames (24) defining an open frame space (28) having a predetermined area for housing the members of Phylum Arthropoda (12) to create a web (20) therein;
10 a roof (32) supported by said wall (22) for covering said frames (24) and said work space (26); and
said assembly characterized by a ratio of said predetermined area of said open frame space (28) to said predetermined area of said foot print (30) of at least 1:5 to prevent
15 territoriality of the members of Phylum Arthropoda (12).

[Claim 11] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said ratio of said predetermined area of said open frame space (28) to said predetermined area of said foot print (30) is further defined as at least 1:9.

- 20 [Claim 12] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said predetermined area of said open frame space (28) is further defined as at least four square feet.

- [Claim 13] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 12 wherein said predetermined area of said foot print (30) is
25 further defined as at least seventy-five square feet.

[Claim 14] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said roof (32) further comprises eaves (34) extending perpendicularly beyond said wall (22) a

predetermined distance of at least two feet to protect said frames (24) from exterior environmental conditions.

5 [Claim 15] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said frames (24) further comprise a top member (14), a bottom member (16), and side members (18).

[Claim 16] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 15 wherein said side members (18), said top member (14), and said bottom member (16) are each at least three feet long.

10 [Claim 17] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 16 wherein said predetermined area of said foot print (30) is further defined as at least ten feet by ten feet.

[Claim 18] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 further comprising a light source (36) disposed within said work space (26) for drawing a food source through said
15 open frame space (28) and into the web (20).

[Claim 19] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said wall (22) further comprises a plurality of walls establishing said outer periphery.

[Claim 20] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 19
20 wherein each of said walls (22) have at least one frame (24) defined therein.

[Claim 21] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 20 wherein each of said walls (22) is further defined as having a plurality of frames (24) defined therein.

25 [Claim 22] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 20 wherein said predetermined area of said open frame space (28) is further defined as at least four square feet.

[Claim 23] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 22 wherein said predetermined area of said foot print (30) is further defined as at least seventy-five square feet.

[Claim 24] A housing assembly as set forth in claim 10
5 further comprising a netting (38) covering said frames (24) for limiting defection of the members of the Phylum Arthropoda (12) from said frames (24).

